THE True Coppy of a certaine Letter written from *Sluce* the 12. of Iune 1606. (according to theyr Computation.)

Concerning an Exployt attempted by the Enemie against the said Towne.

As it was printed at Flushing.

AT LONDON,
Printed by I. R. for *John Flasket.* 1606.

The true Coppie

of a certaine Letter, written from *Sluce*, the 12 of Iune. 1606.

LOuing Friend, I could not forbeare to let you speedilie vnderstand, that which happened vnto vs heere this night vnexpected.

Namely, that the Enemie, beeing some 500 strong, (which he had drawne together out of the next adioyning places & Garisons) swarmed, and pyped vp and downe certaine dayes, one while about Brudges and Damme, an other while about Blanckenberg, & other places there-abouts, with intent to accomplish some notable exployt, while his Excellencie was otherwise busied: thinking (as it appeareth) that we slept, & had no iudge-

ment to conceiue what his intent and comming was.

Hereuppon the honourable Lord Vander Noet, Gouernour of Sluce, and of the Fortes there abouts, like to a wise and prioudent Captaine, sent out certaine men, to learne and vnderstand, to what place the Enemie was minded to make heade, and as neere as was possible, to what place hee would goe.

Afterward, hauing receiued certain aduertisement, that the Enemy was so strong as aforesaid, and without all doubt had some intent vpon Sluce, the Island of Cassant, Ærdenburch, or Isendick, by subtiltie and at vnawares to surprise some of these places, presently gaue speciall warning, and charge to all the Gouernors of the said places, to keep strong watch and ward: and if the Enemie should make any attempt, they should resist as valiant men: which cõmaundement they accomplished, for neither any of the Officers or Souldiers of the said Forts, were out of their garments in three dayes, nor three nights, but in all places held diligent and carefull watch, and with great desire & good deuotion expected the Enemies comming.

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The Enemy beeing furnished (I say) besides his souldiers, with diuers instruments of warre, as Petars, Lathers, Pickaxes, Shouels, and other Instruments of seruice for such an exployt, came this night to Sluce, without making of any noyse at all, euen with his whole forces, marching thorow the Creekes, and drowned Lands betweene Lapichnere and Coxie, vntill hee came to the walls of Sluce to the Coxie gate, which presently with fiue Petars he blew open, and suddenly entred three Ancients: the outermost Cors de guarde, standing on the inward gate of the Towne, being but seauen-teene souldiours, (notwithstanding their valiant and incredible resistance) were ouer-come in the end, before the rest of the Garrison could make their approch: the Enemy aduauncing, and forcing him-selfe euen into the Towne, so that there were entred three hundreth of the best and chiefest souldiers, best exercised in all their exployts.

The Lord Gouernour Vander Noet seeing this, bethought himselfe whether it were fit or not to drawe the Ordinance from the walls, and plant the same in the streetes, thereby to hinder the bold entrance of the Enemy. Yet in the end, resoluing vpon the

readiest meanes, namely, to fall vpon the Enemie with the Garrison and townesmen, who acquitted themselues with no lesse valour then the Souldiers, charging the Enemie so fiercely, as it is scarcely to be beleeued, yet most true, forcing and driuing the Enemie out of the Gate, & killing all that stoode in their way, except some fifty or threescore of the principallest, among which are many Officers, and men of quality, which are detained prisoners in the Towne.

In this attempt, the Enemy lost many of his people, but his greatest losse was in making of his retyre, for the Souldiers retyred in great disorder and confusion, abandoning their weapons, whereof great plentie were found on the wayes, and in the Marrasts grounds, together with great plenty of munition, as Shouels, Pickaxses, Lathers, and such like.

In all places were found many of the Enemies dead, but the certaine number is not as yet knowne: for many were drowned in the Towne-ditch, and many others stucke fast in the Creekes and Marasbes, which shall neuer tell tales thereof to their Mothers.

Lon-

Concerning our ſelues, God be thanked our loſſe is not great, onely the Gouernours Sergeant, with two or three Souldiours more were ſlaine, and ſome few hurt. What is to be enlarged, may in time particularlie be publiſhed. The Almighty GOD bee prayſed, and bleſſed for this wonderfull victory, and reſiſtance. Farewell.

In Sluce the 12 of June. 1606.

FINIS.